

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00

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WASHDC PLEASE PASS USDA, USDOC, LIMA PLEASE PASS AGATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, BL

SUBJ: NEW GOB COMMITTEE ON RICE

REF: LA PAZ 5843

1. JOAQUIN AGUIRRE, PRIVATE CITIZEN RECENTLY RETURNED FROM SEVERAL YEARS RESIDENCE IN COLOMBIA, WAS SKED BY PRESIDENT TO BECOME SPECIAL ADVISOR AND INVESTIGATE OVERALL RICE SITUATION WITH VIEW TO RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN PRODUCTION, STORAGE, COMMERCIALIZATION AND INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL MARKETING. IN EMBOFF VISIT, AGUIRRE STATED RICE REVIEW PROMPTED BY CURRENT PROBLEMS (SEE REFTEL) BUT DESIGNED TO EFFECT LONG-RANGE CHANGES TO PROMOTE EFFICIENT RICE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING.

2. AGUIRRE SEEKING INFO AND ADVICE FROM RICE PRODUCING NATIONS REPRESENTED HERE AND IS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN US TECHNOLOGY, MARKETING METHODOLOGY, EXPERIENCE, ETC. USAID/RRD REP ALSO SAT IN ON VISIT AND WILL LOOK INTO POSSIBILITIES WITHIN USAID PROGRAMS. EMBASSY AGREED TO ASSIST IN EXPLORING FOLLOWING POSSIBILITIES:

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A. TECHNICAL ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE WHICH MAY BE

AVAILABLE THROUGH US UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES
SPECIALIZING IN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES, PARTICULARLY
THOSE LOCATED IN RICE GROWING REGIONS.

B. INFORMATION SERVICES AVAILABLE THROUGH US
ASSOCIATIONS OF RICE GROWERS AND RETAILERS.

C. DOCUMENTS ON THE PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF
RICE IN THE US, PARTICULARLY WITH A HISTORICAL
FRAMEWORK, WHICH MIGHT BE AVAILABLE THROUGH USDA
AND USDOC OR OTHER USG AGENCIES.

3. ACTION REQUESTED EMBASSY BELIEVES BOLIVIA'S
RICE PRODUCING POTENTIAL IS VERY GOOD DESPITE CURRENT
PROBLEMS, AND RECOGNIZES AGUIRRE'S EFFORTS ON BEHALF
OF THE GOB AS SINCERE EFFORT TO RATIONALLY ANALYZE
CURRENT SITUATION AND TAKE STEPS TOWARD MAKING
NEEDED IMPROVEMENTS IN CURRENT PRODUCTION AND
MARKETING SYSTEMS. EMBASSY WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE
DEPARTMENT ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING INFORMATION ABOUT
POSSIBILITIES LISTED PARA 2.
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